

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for representing files stored in stacks, the method comprising:

~~providing a set of stack icons, each icon in the set having a stack height representing a range of stack sizes~~receiving an identification of a plurality of files to be represented by a stack icon;

determining a stack size for ~~a selected stack~~the plurality of files; and

~~selecting and displaying an appropriate~~generating a stack icon from the set of stack icons based on the determined stack size.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a plurality of predefined stack icons, each of said stack icons corresponding to at least one stack size, wherein said step of generating includes a step of selecting one of said predefined stack icons~~set of five stack icons, the set of five stack icons including a large stack icon, a medium stack icon, a small stack icon, a two item stack icon, and an empty stack icon.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising providing a unique empty stack icon that displays an image distinct from other icons in the set~~plurality of predefined stack icons.~~

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising the steps of assigning a first size range to one of said icons, and selecting the large stack icon if the

stack size includes more files than the large stack icon displays is included in said first size range.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of identifying one of said icons as a maximum size icon, and assigning a size minimum to said maximum size icon, and selecting said maximum size icon if said stack size exceeds said size minimum~~selecting the medium stack icon if the stack includes a larger number of items than the medium stack icon displays, but a smaller number than the large stack icon displays and selecting the small stack icon if the stack includes more files than the small stack icon displays but fewer than the medium stack icon displays.~~

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, ~~further comprising selecting the two item stack icon if the stack has at least one item and has fewer items than the small stack icon displays~~wherein one of said stack icons displays a stack having two items.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6~~5~~, further comprising providing a unique empty stack icon that displays an image distinct from other icons in the plurality of predefined stack icons, and selecting the empty stack icon if the stack is empty.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating further comprising~~comprises the step of generating different stack icons to represent files in different~~providing a distinct set of stack icons for each of multiple distinct libraries,

wherein each of said ~~each distinct set of~~ stack icons ~~portrays~~ displays information ~~relevant to a corresponding to a~~ distinct library.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said generated stack icon visually identifies a file type of the plurality of files. ~~8, further comprising selecting a stack icon based on both stack height and an appropriate library.~~

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~8~~9, ~~further comprising storing a set of property based icons for at least one of the multiple distinct libraries, wherein the property based icons include an overlay indicating a file type~~wherein the visual identification of file type is an overlay on the icon.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said generated stack icon includes a thumbnail image displaying contents of one of the plurality of files~~8, further comprising storing a set of custom thumbnail icons for at least one selected library, wherein the custom thumbnail icons include at least one image from a stack within the at least one selected library.~~

12. (Original) A computer readable medium storing the computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

13. (Currently amended) A method for representing a ~~selected stack~~plurality of files, wherein the ~~selected stack is~~files are associated with~~stored within~~ one of multiple libraries, the method comprising:

receiving an identification of a plurality of files to be represented by a stack icon;
identifying a library with which said files are associated, said files in said library
being of a common type, said type being one of word processing, image, address list
contacts, and audio; and

generating a library-based stack icon, said icon including information associated
with said library, and a stack height corresponding to a size of said plurality of
files~~providing an icon for each library, each icon for each library portraying information~~
~~relevant to the library;~~

~~storing multiple icons portraying the relevant information for each library,~~
~~wherein each of the multiple icons in each library represents a range of stack heights; and~~

~~representing a selected stack by determining an appropriate library and an~~
~~appropriate stack height and displaying a corresponding icon.~~

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, ~~further comprising providing a set~~
~~of five stack icons for each library, the set of five stack icons including a large stack icon,~~
~~a medium stack icon, a small stack icon, a two item stack icon, and an empty stack~~
~~icon~~wherein said information associated with said library identifies said common type of
said library.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4413, further comprising ~~providing~~ generating a unique empty stack icon that displays an image distinct from other icons in the set representing a stack having no files.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4413, wherein said step of generating ~~further comprising~~ comprises the step of selecting a predefined stack icon from a plurality of predefined stack icons associated with said library, where each of said predefined stack icons represents a different size of stack items ~~selecting the large stack icon if the stack includes more files than the large stack icon displays.~~

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4416, further comprising the steps of assigning a first size range to a first one of said predefined stack icons, identifying a second one of said predefined stack icons as an empty stack icon, assigning a minimum size to a third one of said predefined stack icons, said third one of said predefined stack icons being a maximum size icon, wherein said step of selecting comprises the step of comparing a size of said plurality of files with said first range or said minimum size ~~selecting the medium stack icon if the stack includes a larger number of items than the medium stack icon displays, but a smaller number than the large stack icon displays and selecting the small stack icon if the stack includes more files than the small stack icon displays but fewer than the medium stack icon displays.~~

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4413, wherein said stack height depicts two items when said plurality of files contains two files ~~further comprising~~

~~selecting the two item stack icon if the stack has at least one item and has fewer items than the small stack icon.~~

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~15, further comprising selecting the empty stack icon ~~if the stack is empty~~in response to a user request to display a stack having no files.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of adding an overlay to said icon, said overlay identifying a file type~~storing a set of property based icons for at least one of the multiple libraries, wherein the property based icons include an overlay indicating a file type.~~

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said step of generating further includes the step of including a thumbnail in said stack icon, said thumbnail depicting contents of one of said plurality of files~~further comprising storing a set of custom thumbnail icons for at least one selected library, wherein the custom thumbnail icons include at least one image from a stack within the at least one selected library.~~

22. (Original) A computer readable medium storing the computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 13.

23. (Currently amended) A system for representing a selected stack of files, the system comprising:

one or more computer-readable media storing ~~stored~~ sets of default stack icons, each stored set of default stack icons representing and portraying information relevant to a corresponding library, wherein each stored set of default stack icons includes multiple icons, each included icon representing a range of stack heights;

one or more computer-readable media storing computer-executable instructions for generating one or more icon selection tools for determining if the selected stack of files belongs to a library having a corresponding stored set of default icons and for determining ~~an appropriate~~ a stack height, wherein upon locating ~~an appropriate~~ a library and stack height, the icon selection tools select and display ~~an appropriate~~ a corresponding icon from ~~an appropriate~~ said corresponding set of default icons.

24. (Currently amended) The system of claim 23, wherein each stored set of default icons comprises a plurality of stack icons, each icon corresponding to a different range of stack sizes ~~set of five stack icons, the set of five stack icons including a large stack icon, a medium stack icon, a small stack icon, a two item stack icon, and an empty stack icon.~~

25. (Currently amended) The system of claim 24, said plurality of stack icons further comprising a unique empty stack icon that displays ~~an a distinct~~ a distinct image ~~distinct from other icons in the set.~~

26. (Currently amended) The system of claim 23, said first one or more computer-readable media further ~~comprising~~ storing a set of property based icons for at least one library, wherein the property based icons include an overlay indicating a file type.

27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 23, said computer-executable instructions further comprising instructions for generating a set of custom thumbnail icons for at least one selected library, wherein the custom thumbnail icons include at least one image from a stack within the at least one selected library.

28. (Currently amended) The system of claim 23, said computer-executable instructions further comprising instructions for ~~counting tools for~~ counting the number of files in a selected stack and displaying the number ~~of items adjacent to or on~~ the appropriate icon.